

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A method of organizing media objects in a database, comprising:

- capturing a media object;
- detecting attributes of the media object indicated in metadata for the media object;
- identifying media objects stored in the database that are related to the media object;
- inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained from each of the stored media objects that are related to the media object; and
- organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 2 (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the detecting step comprises:

- detecting attributes of the media object generated when the media object was captured.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the organizing step includes storing the media object in the database, and wherein the method further comprising: comprises assigning at least one attribute to the metadata for the media object prior to storing the media object.

Claim 4 (original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

- assigning at least one attribute to the metadata for the media object based upon the inference.

Claim 5 (original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

- detecting common features of the stored media objects;
- identifying the stored media objects that have common features; and
- eliminating the stored media objects that are not identified prior to inferring the organizing information.

Claim 6 (original): The method according to claim 5, further comprising:

adding information to the attributes of the metadata of the media object based upon the common features of the stored media objects.

Claim 7 (original): The method according to claim 6, further comprising:

adding information to the metadata of the media object indicating that the organization information for the media object was determined based upon an inference.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

adding information to the metadata of the media object indicating that the organization information for the media object was determined based upon an inference.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method of organizing media objects in a database, comprising:

capturing a media object;
determining attributes of the media object indicated in metadata for the media object;
determining a date on which the media object was captured, wherein the date comprises one of the attributes of the media object;
comparing the date with threshold date information;
identifying media objects stored in the database that are related to the media object based upon the comparison;
inferring organization information for the media object based upon information, obtained from each of the stored media objects related to the media object, and
organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method of organizing media objects in a database, comprising:

capturing a media object;
determining attributes of the media object indicated in the metadata for the media object;
determining a date on which the media object was captured, wherein the date comprises one of the attributes of the media object;
comparing the date on which the media object was captured with entries in a date book;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon the comparison; and
organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method according to claim 910, wherein the comparing step comprises:

comparing the date on which the media object was captured with entries in a global date book.

Claim 12 (original): A method of organizing media objects in a database, comprising:

capturing a media object;

detecting attributes of the media object indicated in metadata for the media object;

performing an inexact search of the database based upon at least one of the attributes of the media object to identify media objects stored in the database that are related to the media object;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained from each of the stored media objects that are related to the media object; and

organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method according to claim 12, wherein the inexact ~~logic~~ search step comprises:

performing an inexact search of the database based upon a date on which the media object was captured, wherein the date comprises one of the attributes of the media object.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method according to claim 12, wherein the inexact ~~logic~~ search step comprises:

performing an inexact search of the database based upon a location ~~at which~~where the media object was captured, wherein the location comprises one of the attributes of the media object.

Claim 15 (original): A method of organizing media objects in a database, comprising:

- capturing a media object;
- comparing the media object with media objects that are stored in the database;
- identifying the stored media objects in the database that include features in common with the media object;
- inferring organization information for the media object based upon information, obtained from each of the media objects including features in common with the media object, representing organization in the database; and
- organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method of organizing media objects in a database, comprising:

- capturing a media object;
- identifying a feature of the media object;
- comparing the feature of the media object with stored media objects that are stored in the database;
- identifying the stored media objects having the identified feature;
- inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained from each of the stored media objects having the identified feature ~~found in~~ of the media object;
- and
- organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method of organizing media objects in a database, comprising:

- capturing a media object;
- identifying a feature of the media object;
- performing an inexact search to detect stored media objects that are stored in the database having the identified feature ~~identified in~~ of the media object;
- identifying the stored media objects having the identified feature ~~identified in~~ of the media object;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon ~~in-format~~
information obtained from each of the stored media objects having the feature identified in the
media object; and

organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 18 (original): A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for
performing the steps of:

capturing a media object;

detecting attributes of the media object indicated in metadata for the media object;

identifying media objects stored in the database that are related to the media object;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained
from each of the stored media objects that are related to the media object; and

organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium according to claim 18, wherein
~~computer-executable instructions for performing the detecting~~determining step comprises:

detecting attributes of the media object generated when the media object was captured.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium according to claim 18, wherein
the organizing step includes storing the media object in the database, the computer-readable
medium having further computer-executable instructions for performing the ~~steps~~step of:
assigning at least one attribute to the metadata for the media object prior to storing the media
object.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium according to claim 18, having
further computer-executable instructions for performing the ~~steps~~step of:

assigning at least one attribute to the metadata for the media object based upon the
inference.

Claim 22 (original): The computer-readable medium according to claim 18, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

- detecting common features of the stored media objects;
- identifying the stored media objects that have common features; and
- eliminating the stored media objects that are not identified prior to inferring the organizing information.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium according to claim 22, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the ~~steps~~step of:

- adding information to the attributes of the metadata of the media object based upon the common features of the stored media objects.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium according to claim 23, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the ~~steps~~step of:

- adding information to the metadata of the media object indicating that the organization information for the media object was determined based upon an inference.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium according to claim 18, having further computer-executable instructions for performing the ~~steps~~step of:

- adding information to the metadata of the media object indicating that the organization information for the media object was determined based upon an inference.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

- capturing a media object;
- determining attributes of the media object indicated in metadata for the media object;
- determining ~~the~~a date on which the media object was captured, wherein the date comprises one of the attributes of the media object;
- comparing the date with threshold date information;

identifying stored media objects stored in the database that are related to the media object based upon the comparison;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained from each of the stored media objects related to the media object; and

organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

capturing a media object;

determining attributes of the media object indicated in the metadata for the media object;

determining ~~the~~ a date on which the media object was ~~capture~~captured, wherein the date comprises one of the attributes of the media object;

comparing the date on which the media object was captured with entries in a date book;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon the comparison; and

~~and~~ organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium according to claim 27, wherein ~~the computer-executable instructions for performing the~~ comparing step comprises:

comparing the date on which the media object was captured with entries in a global date book.

Claim 29 (original): A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

capturing a media object;

detecting attributes of the media object indicated in metadata for the media object;

performing an inexact search of the database based upon at least one of the attributes of the media object to identify stored media objects stored in the database that are related to the media object;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained from each of the stored media objects that are related to the media object; and

organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 30 (original): The computer-readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the ~~computer-executable instructions for performing the inexact logic search step~~ comprises:

performing an inexact search of the database based upon a date on which the media object was captured, wherein the date comprises one of the attributes of the media object.

Claim 31 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium according to claim 29, wherein the ~~computer-executable instructions for performing the inexact logic search step~~ comprises:

performing an inexact search of the database based upon a location ~~at which~~where the media object was captured, wherein the location comprises one of the attributes of the media object.

Claim 32 (original): A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

- capturing a media object;
- comparing the media object with stored media objects that are stored in the database;
- identifying the stored media objects in the database that include features in common with the media object;
- inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained from each of the media objects including features in common with the media object; and
- organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 33 (currently amended): A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

- capturing a media object;
- identifying a feature of the media object;
- comparing the feature of the media object with stored media objects that are stored in the database;

identifying the stored media objects having the identified feature ~~found in~~ of the media object;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained from each of the stored media objects having the identified feature ~~found in~~ of the media object; and

organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 34 (original): A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

capturing a media object;

identifying a feature of the media object;

performing an inexact search to detect stored media objects that are stored in the database having the identified feature ~~identified in~~ of the media object;

identifying the stored media objects having the identified feature ~~of identified in~~ the media object;

inferring organization information for the media object based upon information obtained from each of the stored media objects having the identified feature ~~of identified~~ in the media object; and

organizing the media object in the database based upon the inference.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A method of organizing media objects in a database, comprising:

detecting a capture time for each of the media objects to be organized;

sorting the media objects ~~in~~-based upon the capture time to generate a sorted list;

comparing the capture time of each of the media objects with a reference value; and

grouping the media objects in the database based upon the comparison.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The method according to claim 35, wherein the comparing step comprises:

determining whether the capture time of the each of the media objects is within a predetermined time period from the reference value; and

wherein the grouping step comprises grouping at least one of the media objects into a collection when the capture time of the at least one of the media objects ~~the media objects is~~ within the predetermined time period from the reference value.

Claim 37 (original): The method according to claim 36, further comprising:

selecting a representative media object from the at least one of the media objects grouped in the collection for use as a user interface.

Claim 38 (original): The method according to claim 37, further comprising:

repeating the comparing step, the grouping step and the selecting step for each of the media objects in the sorted list.

Claim 39 (original): The method according to claim 35, further comprising:

setting a reference value to a predetermined value;
determining whether the capture time of a first one of the media objects in the sorted list is within a predetermined time period from the reference value;
grouping the first one of the media objects into a collection when the capture time of the first one of the media objects is within the predetermined time period from the reference value;
updating the reference value to the capture time of the first one of the media objects in the sorted list to generate an updated reference value; and
repeating the determining step, the grouping step and the updating step for each of the media objects in the sorted list.

Claim 40 (original): The method according to claim 39, further comprising:

creating a new collection when the capture time of any one of the media objects from the sorted list is not within the predetermined time period from the updated reference value.

Claim 41 (original): The method according to claim 40, further comprising:

selecting a representative media object from the collection and from each new collection for use as a user interface.

Appln. No.: 10/021,255
Amendment dated July 20, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 11, 2004

Claims 42-46 (canceled)